

This is a Notice of Intent (NOI) only. The Department of Energy (DOE) may issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) as described herein, may issue a FOA that is significantly different than the FOA described herein, or may not issue a FOA at all.



NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY
Albany, OR • Morgantown, WV • Pittsburgh, PA



Notice of Intent (NOI) No. DE-FOA-0003377

Issue Date: July 15, 2024

DISCLAIMER: The “Notice of Intent to Issue” is for informational purposes only. The Department of Energy (DOE) is not seeking comments on the information in this notice. Applications are not being accepted at this time. Any information contained in this notice is subject to change.

This is a Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0003343 “Undocumented Orphaned Well Characterization and Remediation”

The DOE National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) intends to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) on behalf of the DOE Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. It is anticipated that the FOA will be issued in 2024.

TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES

The anticipated technical objective of this FOA is to competitively solicit cost-shared research and development (R&D) proposals to enhance technologies and processes for effective characterization of undocumented orphaned wells (UOWs); improve advanced sensors for the measurement, estimation, and tracking of methane emissions from these wells and their associated infrastructure; and support the development of new characterization concepts and advanced materials for more efficient and cost-effective permanent plugging and abandonment (P&A) of such wells.

DOE seeks to advance cost-effective technology options toward commercialization that can more efficiently characterize the condition of a UOW and provide a range of remediation options. If released, this FOA is anticipated to focus on the following three Areas of Interest (AOI):

- (1) Advanced Remediation Techniques for UOW Boreholes: Address the need for novel and advanced remediation materials for UOW boreholes in various conditions and with minimal surface disturbance;
- (2) UOW Wellbore Characterization: Address the need for surface deployable technologies that do not require entry into the wellbore to characterize UOW wellbore conditions, as well as determine the need for novel P&A techniques in unique situations; and
- (3) Long-Term UOW Monitoring: Address the need for cost-effective, long-term well monitoring techniques and technologies to measure and quantify methane emissions from UOWs both before and after P&A activities.

Research under these anticipated AOI’s is expected to accelerate the development of disruptive technologies for characterization, mitigation, and remediation measures related to UOWs. Efforts are expected to advance novel cost-effective wellbore P&A technologies toward commercialization that can permanently eliminate hydrocarbon leakage pathways and associated constituents to the atmosphere, local ecosystems, and areas that could result in direct exposure to people or other organisms. Similarly,

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in order to better inform P&A operations, associated R&D is expected to develop technologies to more efficiently characterize wellbore conditions without physically entering into the wellbore. The development of advanced sensing technologies to monitor and assess environmental conditions in and near the UOW to help inform P&A prioritization and to ensure permanent sealing of the wellbore and zero emissions to the atmosphere over time are also of interest.

Potential projects related to validating and demonstrating technologies must identify an industry partner(s), well site location(s), duration of operations, an initial estimated labor hour commitment, and an outline of expected tasks to ensure the safe and effective operation of the technology in the field. Solutions must show a net-zero emissions profile at the well site that is in line with the current Administration's decarbonization goals and well-aligned to support ongoing and potential future UOW emissions mitigation efforts.

DOE will not accept questions at this time regarding issuance of the potential FOA. Details on how to submit questions and comments will be provided in the FOA, if and when issued.

SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

If issued, the FOA will be available for viewing at Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) and at FedConnect (<http://www.fedconnect.net/FedConnect>). Entities interested in this FOA are strongly encouraged to register at these sites to receive notification of announcements regarding the FOA. If the FOA is issued, applications will only be received through Grants.gov.

There are several one-time actions that must be completed before submitting an application in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) (e.g., obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), register with the System for Award Management (SAM), register with Grants.gov, and register with FedConnect.net to submit questions). It is vital that applicants address these items as soon as possible. Some may take several weeks, and failure to complete them could interfere with an applicant's ability to apply to this FOA. Applicants who are not registered should allow up to **44 days at a minimum to complete these requirements**

- **UEI** - Applicants must obtain an UEI from the SAM to uniquely identify the entity. The UEI is already available in the SAM entity registration record.

NOTE: Subawardees/subrecipients at all tiers must also obtain an UEI and provide the UEI to the Prime Recipient before the subaward can be issued.

- **SAM** - Applicants must register with the SAM at <https://www.sam.gov/> prior to submitting an application in response to this FOA. Designating an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an MPIN are important steps in SAM registration. Failure to register with SAM will prevent your organization from applying through Grants.gov. The applicant must maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application under consideration. More information about SAM registration for applicants is found at: https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp?id=gsafsd_kb_articles&sys_id=650d493e1bab7c105465eaccac4bcbcb.

NOTE: If clicking the SAM links do not work, please copy and paste the link into your browser.

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➤ **Grants.gov** - Applicants must register with Grants.gov and set up your Workspace. You cannot submit an application through Grants.gov unless you are registered. Please read the registration requirements carefully and start the process immediately.

- 1) The Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) must register at: <https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/OrcRegister>
- 2) An email is sent to the E-Business (E-Biz) POC listed in SAM. The E-Biz POC must approve the AOR registration using their MPIN from their SAM registration.

More information about the registration steps for Grants.gov is provided at:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration.html>

In addition:

- Add a Profile to a Grants.gov Account: A profile in Grants.gov corresponds to a single applicant organization the user represents (i.e., an applicant) or an individual applicant. If you work for or consult with multiple organizations and have a profile for each, you may log in to one Grants.gov account to access all of your grant applications. To add an organizational profile to your Grants.gov account, enter the UEI for the organization while adding a profile. For more detailed instructions about creating a profile on Grants.gov, refer to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration/add-profile.html>
- *EBiz POC Authorized Profile Roles*: After you register with Grants.gov and create an Organization Applicant Profile, the organization applicant's request for Grants.gov roles and access is sent to the EBiz POC. The EBiz POC will then log in to Grants.gov and authorize the appropriate roles, which may include the AOR role, thereby giving you permission to complete and submit applications on behalf of the organization. You will be able to submit your application online any time after you have been assigned the AOR role.

NOTE: When applications are submitted through Grants.gov, the name of the organization applicant with the AOR role that submitted the application is inserted into the signature line of the application, serving as the electronic signature. The EBiz POC **must** authorize people who are able to make legally binding commitments on behalf of the organization as a user with the AOR role; **this step is often missed and it is crucial for valid and timely submissions.**

For more detailed instructions about creating a profile on Grants.gov, refer to: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration/authorize-roles.html>

To track your role request, refer to:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration/track-role-status.html>

Questions relating to the **registration process, system requirements, or how an application form works** must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

➤ **FedConnect.net** - Applicants must register with FedConnect to submit questions. FedConnect

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website: www.fedconnect.net.

DISCLAIMER

This NOI is issued so that interested parties are aware that DOE may issue a FOA on this topic. Any information contained in this NOI is subject to change.

No Concept Papers or Applications are being accepted at this time.

The DOE will **not** entertain questions at this time. Details on how to submit questions will be provided in the FOA, if issued.